Government Office for Science

Foresight

Foresight Future Flooding Project USA: Expert Workshop

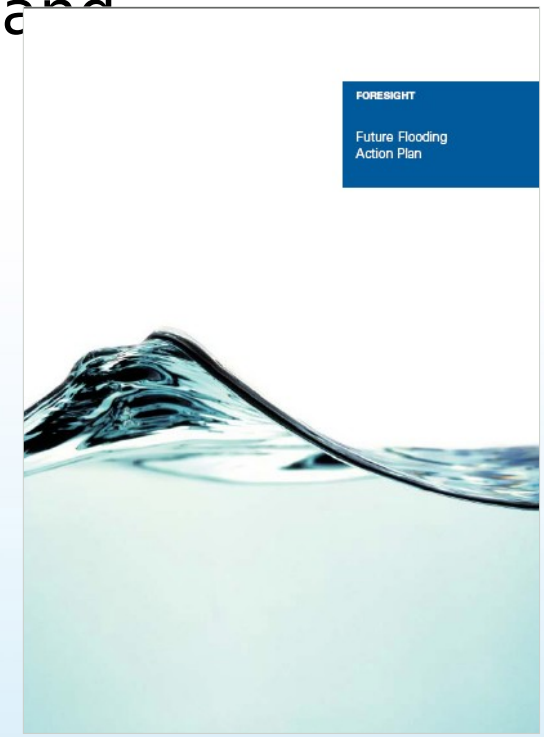
15 to 19 September 2008, Washington D.C.

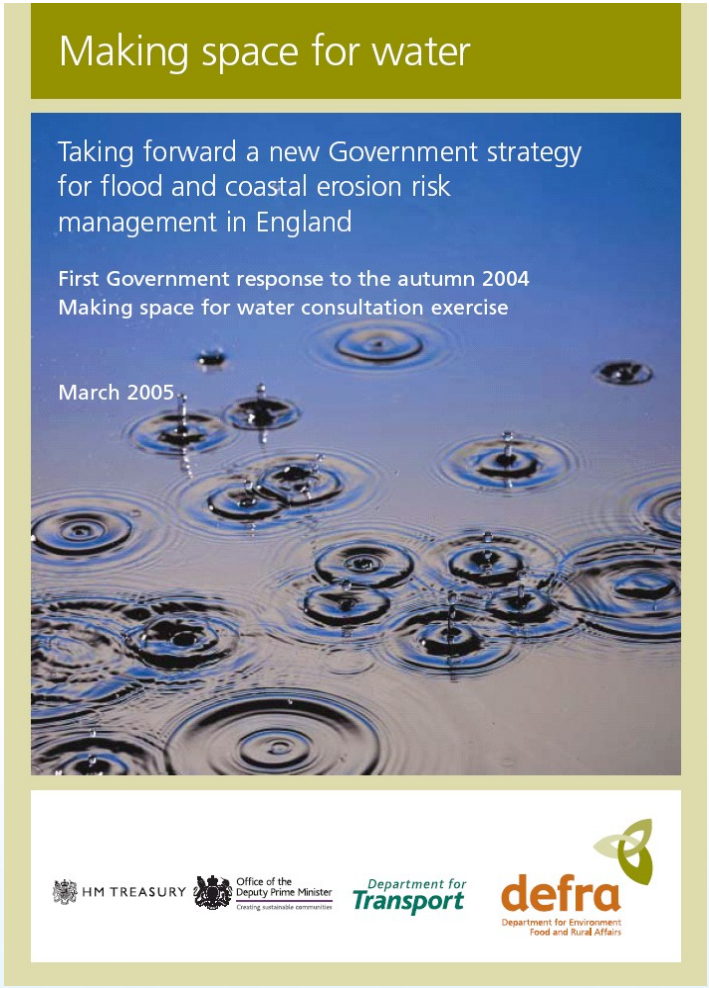
‘Uptake of Foresight flooding messages: four years on’

Jon Parke

Delivering change

- **Action plan**
- **Policy development and delivery**
  - Long-term strategy on flood risk and its delivery
  - Planning guidance
  - Review of 2007 floods
  - Thames Estuary, UK
  - Taihu Basin, China
- **Research**



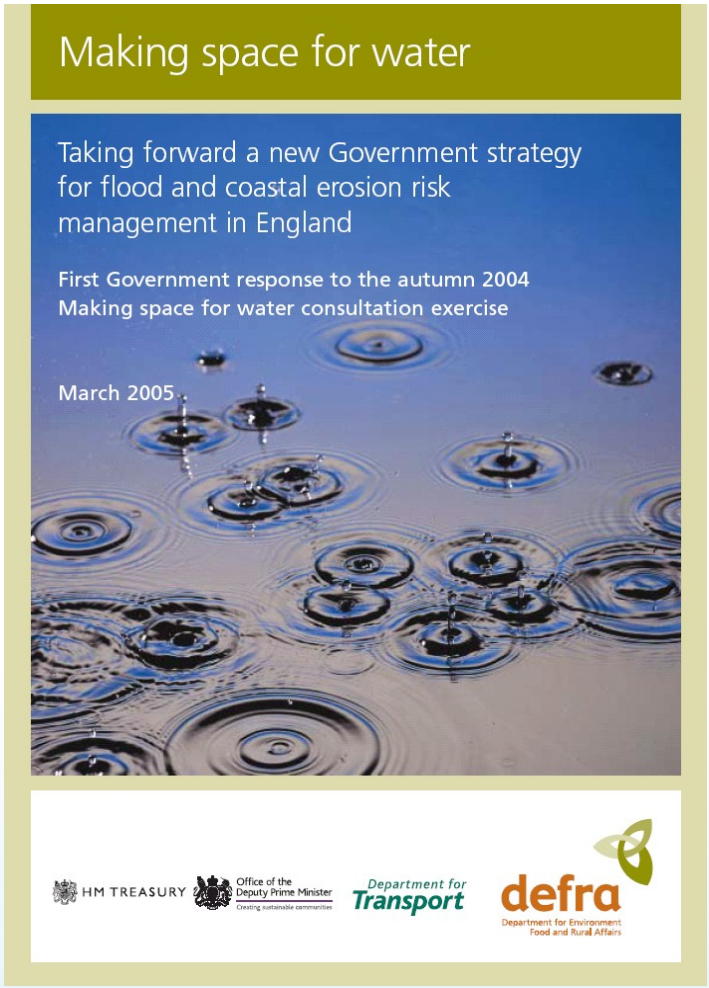

Making space for water
Taking forward a new Government strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England
First Government response to the autumn 2004 Making space for water consultation exercise
March 2005
HM TREASURY
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
Department for Transport
defra
Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

Making Space for Water

Developing the Strategy

- Defra-led, cross-government
- Holistic approach
- Sustainable development
- Resistance and resilience
- Funding

defra
Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs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Making Space for Water

Elliot Morley MP,

Minister for Environment:

"The Foresight report provided critical new analysis of the risks we face, including the high impact of climate change, and the options for responding to them."

"…the Foresight Future Flooding report highlighted the need for Government to develop a comprehensive, integrated and forward-thinking strategy for managing future flood and coastal erosion risks in England."

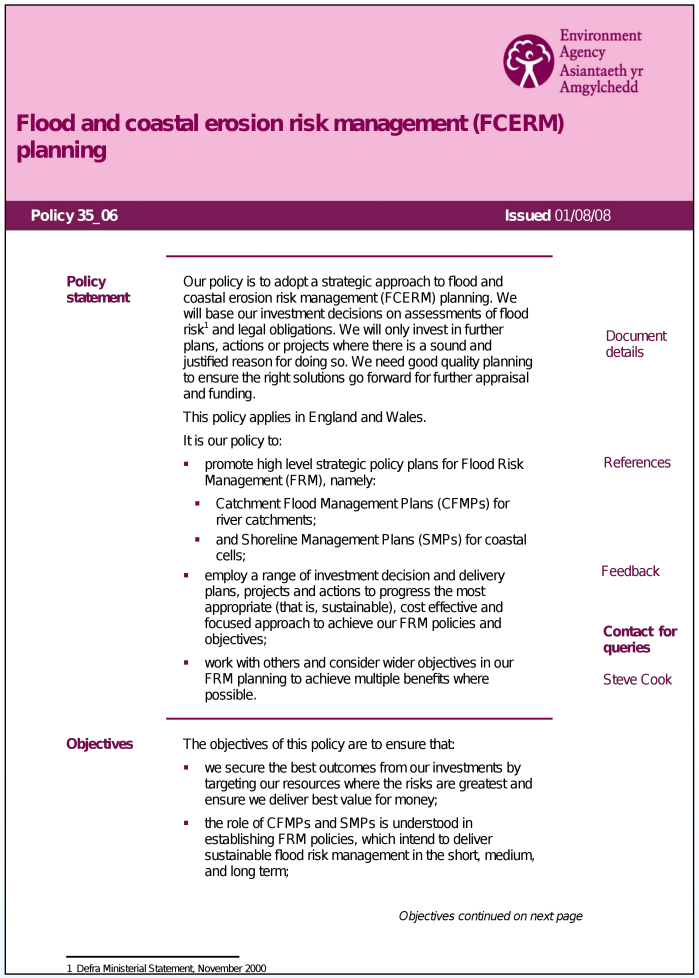
defra
Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

UK Environment Agency policy

Strategic policy plans:

- Future National Risk Assessment (NaFRA)
- Long term Investment Strategy (LTIS)
- Catchment Flood Management Plans and Shoreline Management Plans

Environment Agency



Environment Agency
Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd

Flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCERM) planning

Policy 35_06 **Issued** 01/08/08

Policy statement

Our policy is to adopt a strategic approach to flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCERM) planning. We will base our investment decisions on assessments of flood risk[1] and legal obligations. We will only invest in further plans, actions or projects where there is a sound and justified reason for doing so. We need good quality planning to ensure the right solutions go forward for further appraisal and funding.

This policy applies in England and Wales.

It is our policy to:

- promote high level strategic policy plans for Flood Risk Management (FRM), namely:
  - Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMPs) for river catchments;
  - and Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) for coastal cells;
- employ a range of investment decision and delivery plans, projects and actions to progress the most appropriate (that is, sustainable), cost effective and focused approach to achieve our FRM policies and objectives;
- work with others and consider wider objectives in our FRM planning to achieve multiple benefits where possible.

Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to ensure that:

- we secure the best outcomes from our investments by targeting our resources where the risks are greatest and ensure we deliver best value for money;
- the role of CFMPs and SMPs is understood in establishing FRM policies, which intend to deliver sustainable flood risk management in the short, medium, and long term;

Objectives continued on next page

1 Defra Ministerial Statement, November 2000

Document details

References

Feedback

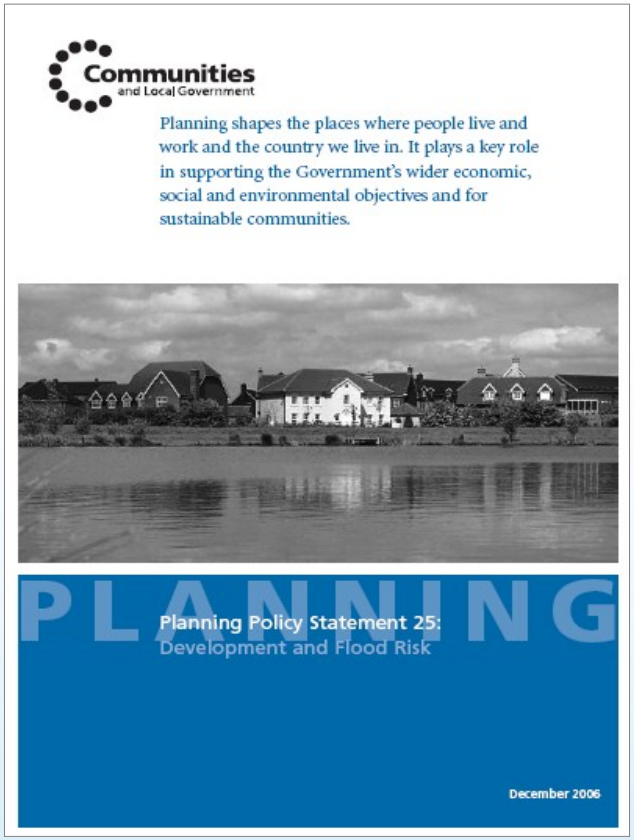
Contact for queries

Steve Cook

"We are pleased to see that Making Space for Water has incorporated much of the thinking from the Foresight project at the highest policy level" Phil Rothwell, Head of Flood Risk Management Policy, Environment Agency

Land-use Planning and Flood Risk

Government policy on development and flood risk (PPS 25) ensures that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process.


Communities
and Local Government
Planning shapes the places where people live and work and the country we live in. It plays a key role in supporting the Government's wider economic, social and environmental objectives and for sustainable communities.
PLANNING
Planning Policy Statement 25:
Development and Flood Risk
December 2006

Foresight is the sound evidence base which:

- Gives the confidence to pursue a stronger policy line
- Provides the rationale for making planning a key part of Making Space for Water
- Demonstrates the effectiveness of planning policy in adapting to increased flood risk from a changing climate - supported by other major reviews
- Shows that a sequential risk-based approach is needed to best mitigate or

Government ‘Pitt’ review of 2007 floods

- Most costly flood in the world in 2007 - 48,000 households, 7,000 businesses flooded and billions of pounds of damage
- Original Foresight report provided the scientific foundation for the review and a qualitative update was commissioned.
- Foresight widely recognised as the most credible and comprehensive consideration of future flood risk in the UK.
- Foresight provided the credible base for consideration of key evidence
- Review highlighted key issues e.g. rising risk from pluvial flooding and need for a range of approaches to manage risk.
- Helped ensure that the Review’s recommendations were well received

The Pitt Review

Delivery - Environment Agency e.g. Thames Estuary 2100

Strategic plan for managing flood risk in the Thames Estuary in the 21st Century - informed by Foresight:

- Fresh look at future risk – catchment scale interaction of drivers, will consider predominantly tidal and all forms of flooding;
- Integration of political and governance infrastructure;
- Adaptable long-term planning for a range of climate and socio-economic futures;
- Risk based responses – basket of structural and non-structural measures. Social, environmental and economic cost:benefits.
- Final consultations April 2009 – submission in 2010
- Partnership

Thames Estuary 2100

Taihu Basin, China

- Background – GCSA-UN interest
- High-level support from Chinese stakeholders eg MOST, MWR and TBA
- Site selection and scoping mission - development of project proposal
- Secure funding
- Project initiation 2006

Research

- In 2004, the Flood Risk Management Research Consortium (FRMRC) was launched with £7.5 Million ($15 Million) of funding by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.
- Defra:EA R&D Programme £30m ($60m) over 5 years – strategy and policy development, modelling and risk, sustainable asset management and incident management;
- In 2007, such was the success of the FRMRC that a further £7 Million ($14 Million) of new funding for a second phase of research.
- In 2005, the Natural Environment Research Council allocated £6 Million ($12 Million) of funding to the Flood Risk and Extreme Events (FREE) research programme.
- Implications of the UKCIP08 scenarios
- ERA-NET CRUE – integrated European research, FLOODsite
- Tyndall Centre and Living With Environmental Change

Evidence into policy

"Defra's Director of Water also told us that the *Foresight Report* (2004)—which recommended about £1 billion per annum be spent on flood risk management by 2015 in real terms—had been "heavily influential" in the outcome of the (Treasury 2007 spending review) ….."

House of Commons Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, 2008

Evidence into action

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